

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1–29 were pending and were finally rejected. No claims are amended. Claims 1–29 remain pending. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested in view of the following remarks.

Rejection Under § 102

Claims 1–29 were rejected as anticipated by *Premiere 6.5 for Windows and Macintosh: Visual Quickstart Guide* by Antony Bolante (“Bolante”). Copies of excerpts from this reference were provided with both the first Office Action in this case, mailed January 10, 2007, and the Final Office Action mailed June 20, 2007. In each case, the page numbers refer to handwritten numbers on the copies provided that were added by Examiner. All page numbers herein refer to the Bolante excerpts mailed with the Final Office Action.

Claims 1–29 are directed to methods, GUIs, and computer readable media that relate to the editing of media files. The following remarks address independent claim 1. However, each independent claim includes similar limitations and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons. Similarly, the dependent claims each incorporate such limitations from the corresponding independent claim and are therefore also allowable.

Claim 1 describes a method for editing a media file that includes one or more media segments. Claim 1 recites changing the length of a media segment by grabbing and moving an endpoint of the segment. The grabbing and moving come from user interface signals relating to cursor position over a timeline. Claim 1 further requires “providing audio scrubbing of the media segment together with and corresponding to the movement of the endpoint.” In response to the First Office Action, this limitation was asserted to distinguish the claims from Bolante.

In response to this argument, the Final Office Action states:

[A]pplicant believes that Bolante fails to disclose providing audio scrubbing of the media segment corresponding to movement of the endpoint. The examiner disagrees. Bolante discusses the ability to see an effect right away by scrubbing and further discusses how settings can be changed to provide audio feedback along with scrubbing within the timeline.”

Final Office Action at 9. This statement is expressly contradicted by the reference. The very passage cited by Examiner (*i.e.*, p. 1, para. 1) states “[S]crubbing the edit line allows you to

watch an effect right away, *but without audio* and not at full playback speed” (emphasis added). “Without audio” plainly means that there can be no audio scrubbing provided in conjunction with editing operations, such as trimming as recited in claim 1.

Examiner cites two additional passages of Bolante to bolster his rejection. Neither of these passages describe audio scrubbing in context with any editing operation and certainly not in the context of a trimming operation. Each passage at best only describes audio scrubbing as being available in the context of playback of DV video footage. This cannot meet the limitation of claim 1 requiring “audio scrubbing of the media segment together with and corresponding to the movement of the endpoint.” Moreover, this limitation further recites that the audio scrubbing correspond to the movement of the endpoint of the media segment. Nowhere does Bolante teach or suggest that any audio scrubbing corresponds to the movement of an endpoint of a media segment.

Providing audio scrubbing in conjunction with the trimming operation as claimed creates a new and unique experience that enables an improved workflow. The user can fully accomplish an accurate edit to a clip in one mouse drag because he can hear and see what he’s doing while he is doing it. Conversely, the cited prior art only discloses editing and audio scrubbing as separate and independent features that are not designed to work with each other and are not capable of being used together. To perform an accurate edit (located to a specific visual or aural cue) using the teachings of Bolante would take several steps and would likely not be as accurate or as easy to perform.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable action on these claims, including a Notice of Allowance, is therefore requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments that would aid in advancing this application towards allowance, he is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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